

## Water-Related WDNR Responsibilities

## **Drinking & Groundwater Specialist**

Counties: Buffalo, Trempealeau, Jackson (715) 839-3796, Clark (715) 720-5508

- → Well construction and related reports
- → Non-municipal public water well inspections
- → Well Driller and Pump Installer field contacts
- → Well variance and approval information
- → Groundwater education
- Contaminant sampling at public or private well supply
- → Well abandonment

## Fisheries Biologist (715) 284-1428 Fisheries Technician (715) 284-1406

Counties: Buffalo, Clark, Jackson, Trempealeau

- → Monitor fish populations
- → Fish habitat restoration
- → Fishing regulations
- Land easements and acquisition related to streams/lakes
- Aquatic information and education
- → Fish stocking
- → Private landowner consultations regarding stream systems

## Floodplain & Dam Safety Engineer (715) 284-1418

Counties: Buffalo, Clark, Jackson, Trempealeau

- Flood elevation determinations
- → Hydrology and hydraulic analyses
- → Stream crossings
- → Bridge and culvert engineering
- → Dam safety inspections
- → Dam construction applications
- Floodplain planning functions, federal, state, local regulations
- **→** Enforcement surveys
- → Topographic survey information

#### Wastewater & Water Supply Engineer

Counties: Clark, Jackson, Trempealeau (half) (715) 284-1425, Buffalo, Trempealeau (608) 785-9981

- → Municipal wastewater
- → Municipal drinking water
- → Stormwater permits
- Construction site erosion control permits
- → Gravel pit discharge permits

#### Water Management Specialist (715) 284-1424

Counties: Buffalo, Clark, Jackson, Trempealeau

- → Municipal shoreland and wetland zoning assistance
- → Wetland regulations
- → Physical alteration of waterways including:

- Ponds, dredging, sand blankets
- Grading channel changes, fish habitat, shoreline protection
- Boat ramps, piers, boat shelters
- Pipelines, irrigation
- Water levels, dams
- Bridges, culverts

## Water Quality Biologist (715) 284-1405

Counties: Buffalo, Clark, Jackson, Trempealeau

- → Water samples from streams and lakes for chemical analysis
- → Aquatic insect samples
- → Habitat conditions of streams
- → Nonpoint source projects

## Animal Waste Specialist (715) 284-1429

Watershed/Counties: Black-Buffalo-Trempealeau River Basin / most of Buffalo, Clark, Jackson, Trempealeau, and parts of La Crosse, Monroe, Wood, Taylor, Eau Claire, and Pepin

- → Issue animal waste WPDES (Wisconsin Pollutant Discharge Elimination System) Permits
- → Develop Environmental Assessments for large CAFOs (Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations).
- → Conduct public hearings and meetings
- Conduct compliance inspections on WPDES permits
- Develop strategy to address the four prohibitions and NODs (Notices of Discharge) region wide.
- Investigate and issue NODs to animal operations

#### Stormwater Specialist 715-359-2872

Counties: Adams, Buffalo, Chippewa, Clark, Dunn, Eau Claire, Jackson, Juneau, La Crosse, Marathon, Monroe, Pepin, Pierce, Portage, St. Croix, Trempealeau, Vernon, Wood



## Land- and Forestry-Related WDNR Responsibilities

## Forester Rangers/Forestry Technicians (715) 284-1470

Counties: Clark, Jackson, Monroe

- Provide forest fire prevention activities & information to public.
- → Maintain readiness of fire fighting equipment
- → Insure forest fires detection is provided in WDNR jurisdiction area
- Suppress forest fires in areas of state dominated by forestlands.
- → Enforce forestry related protection laws
- Provide fire suppression training to local fire departments and suppression crews
- Assist with forest management activities on state and county owned forested properties

#### Forester - Private Landowner Assistance

Counties: Buffalo (608) 685-6223, Clark (715) 743-5137, Jackson (715) 284-1415, Trempealeau (715)538-2311

- → Provides forest management information to the public
- → Implements the forestry tax programs in the county
- → Assist county conservation and agricultural agencies
- Assist landowners with forest management on their properties
- → Manage state owned lands

### Forester - Public Land Management

Counties: Buffalo (608) 685-6223, Clark (715) 743-5137, Jackson (715) 284-1415, Trempealeau (715) 538-2311

- Provide technical assistance to the county forest program including planning and implementation of management activities
- Establish timber sales on county forest properties
- ■ Insure regeneration of harvested areas
- Establish timber stand improvement projects
- → Provides forest management information to the public

#### Wildlife Biologist/Wildlife Technician

Counties: Buffalo/Trempealeau (608) 685-6222, Clark/Jackson (715) 284-1403

- → Provide wildlife management information to the public
- Monitor and manage wildlife populations including conducting surveys and establishment of population goals and harvest quotas
- Monitor wildlife population health
- Manage state-owned properties including planning and implementation of management activities to insure healthy and diverse wildlife populations
- → Provide technical assistance to private landowners in the county
- Work with other agencies including U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, County Land Conservation, and U.S. Department of Agriculture
- → Implement wildlife damage and nuisance abatement programs

## Black River State Forest Superintendent (715) 284-1406

Counties: Jackson County

- → Work on Forest Master Planning
- Cooperate and inform the county and townships
- → Oversee forest operations and develop forest policies/procedures

- → Inspect facilities/designated use areas
- → Develop Friends Agreements
- Hire, train, and supervise staff
- → Work on development projects
- Oversee the Timber Management Program
- → Coordinate budgeting & fiscal management

### State Forest Rangers (715) 284-1403

Counties: Jackson County

- Work with the public and Visitor Services
- Handle facilities construction/management, campground development/maintenance, trails construction/operations/maintenance, and equipment maintenance
- Take water samples at designated use areas
- → Groom trails
- **→** Enforce forest laws
- Assist with forest fire protection/suppression
- → Manages forest recreation revenues

## State Forest Forester (715) 284-1417

Counties: Jackson County

- → Prepare and administer Timber Sales
- → Complete Reconnaissance Inventory
- → Map Forest Stand Mapping
- → Dispense salvage permits and firewood permits
- Develop forest management education program
- Handle forest management fiscal operations

## NR Property Supervisor Rec/Trails/Park Manager (varies by park)

- → Supervise Rec/Trails team
- Track and remit camping and sticker revenue
- → Balance allocated budgets for team
- Supervise Law Enforcement Program/perform law enforcement
- Conduct inspections (designated use, buildings, boundary, safety)/act as safety officer
- Generate development, major building and Preventive maintenance projects
- → Supervise and perform visitor and interpretive services
- Administer Public Relations Program
- Coordinate facility operations and schedule staff
- → Plan and supervise best land management practices
- Coordinate non-profit group activities (Friends groups)
- Hire, train, and supervise Limited Term Employees (LTE)

## Park Ranger (varies by park)

- Perform Law Enforcement duties/act as court officer.
- Conduct building maintenance & repair, grounds maintenance in designated use areas, & land management in non-designated areas
- Maintain and repair equipment.
- Perform basic carpentry, plumbing and electrical maintenance.
- Oversee and conduct interpretive services and visitor services
- → Plow snow/groom ski trails
- Act as firearms instructor and or armorer
- → Lead work crews



Table 10: Rare Plant and Animal Species of the BBT

# Rare Basin Species

This is a list of the Wisconsin endangered and threatened species, and also includes those species of special concern that are either federally listed as endangered or threatened or are candidates for federal listing.

Common Name	Species Name	WI Status <sup>1</sup>	
Plants			
Bog Bluegrass	Poa paludigena	T*	
Brittle Prickly-Pear	Opuntia fragilis	Т	
Carey's Sedge	Carex careyana	Т	
Carolina Anemone	Anemone caroliniana	Е	
Clustered Broomrape	Orobanche fasciculata	Т	
Deam's Rockcress	Arabis missouriensis var deamii	SC*	
False Hop Sedge	Carex lupuliformis	Е	
Glade Mallow	Napaea dioica	SC*	
Hill's Thistle	Cirsium hillii	T*	
Large Water-Starwort	Callitriche heterophylla	T	
Little Goblin Moonwort	Botrychium mormo	E*	
Pale Green Orchid	Platanthera flava var herbiola	Т	
Prairie Bush-Clover	Lespedeza leptostachya	E**	
Prairie Fame-Flower	Talinum rugospermum	SC*	
Prairie Milkweed	Asclepias sullivantii	Т	
Prairie White-Fringed Orchid	Platanthera leucophaea	E**	
Sand Violet	Viola fimbriatula	Е	
Small White Lady's-Slipper	Cypripedium candidum	Т	
Snowy Campion	Silene nivea	Т	
Yellow Gentian	Gentiana alba	Т	
Animals			Taxa
American Burying Beetle	Nicrophorus americanus	E**	Beetle
American Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus	E**	Bird
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	SC**	Bird
Barn Owl	Tyto alba	Е	Bird
Bell's Vireo	Vireo bellii	T	Bird
Cerulean Warbler	Dendroica cerulea	T*	Bird
Forster's Tern	Sterna forsteri	Е	Bird
Great Egret	Ardea albus	T	Bird
Greater Prairie-Chicken	Tympanuchus cupido	T	Bird
Henslow's Sparrow	Ammodramus henslowii	T*	Bird
Kentucky Warbler	Oporornis formosus	T	Bird
Kirtland's Warbler	Dendroica kirtlandii	SC**	Bird
Loggerhead Shrike	Lanius ludovicianus	E*	Bird
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	T	Bird
Red-shouldered Hawk	Buteo lineatus	T	Bird

Yellow-Crowned Night-Heron	Nyctanassa violaceus	T	Bird
Frosted Elfin	Incisalia irus	T	Butterfly
Karner Blue Butterfly	Lycaeides melissa samuelis	SC**	Butterfly
Elusive Clubtail	Stylurus notatus	SC*	Dragonfly
Extra-Striped Snaketail	Ophiogomphus anomalus	E*	Dragonfly
Pygmy Snaketail	Ophiogomphus howei	T*	Dragonfly
Warpaint Emerald	Somatochlora incurvata	Е	Dragonfly
Black Buffalo	Ictiobus niger	T	Fish
Black Redhorse	Moxostoma duquesnei	Е	Fish
Blue Sucker	Cycleptus elongatus	T*	Fish
Crystal Darter	Crystallaria asprella	E*	Fish
Gilt Darter	Percina evides	T	Fish
Goldeye	Hiodon alosoides	Е	Fish
Lake Sturgeon	Acipenser fulvescens	SC*	Fish
Paddlefish	Polyodon spathula	T*	Fish
Pallid Shiner	Notropis amnis	Е	Fish
Redfin Shiner	Lythrurus umbratilis	T	Fish
River Redhorse	Moxostoma carinatum	T	Fish
Skipjack Herring	Alosa chrysochloris	Е	Fish
Slender Madtom	Noturus exilis	Е	Fish
Speckled Chub	Macrhybopsis aestivalis	T	Fish
Starhead Topminnow	Fundulus dispar	Е	Fish
Blanchard's Cricket Frog	Acris crepitans blanchardi	Е	Frog
Western Slender Glass Lizard	Ophisaurus attenuatus	Е	Lizard
Ellipse	Venustaconcha ellipsiformis	T	Mussel
Pecatonica River Mayfly	Acanthametropus pecatonica	E*	Mayfly
Phlox Moth	Schinia indiana	Е	Moth
Ebony Shell	Fusconaia ebena	Е	Mussel
Monkeyface	Quadrula metanevra	T	Mussel
Wing Snaggletooth	Gastrocopta procera	T	Snail
Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake	Sistrurus catenatus catenatus	E*	Snake
Western Ribbon Snake	Thamnophis proximus	Е	Snake
Blanding's Turtle	Emydoidea blandingii	T*	Turtle
Wood Turtle	Clemmys insculpta	T	Turtle

<sup>1 –</sup> Wisconsin Status:

 $Endangered-continued\ existence\ in\ Wisconsin\ is\ in\ jeopardy.$ 

Threatened – appears likely, within the foreseeable future, to become endangered.

Taken from Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/rare.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/rare.htm</a>, 2001.

Special Concern – species for which some problem of abundance or distribution is a suspected but not yet proven.

<sup>\*</sup> Candidate for federal listing

<sup>\*\*</sup> Federally Endangered or Threatened



## Other Activities & Educational Opportunities

→ The Aldo Leopold Foundation <a href="http://www.aldoleopold.org/">http://www.aldoleopold.org/</a>

> The Aldo Leopold Foundation "builds on the vision" of its namesake with such opportunities as The Woodland School, the Shack Seminar Series, and internships.

Becoming an Outdoors Woman in Wisconsin <a href="http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr//bow/wihome.htm">http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr//bow/wihome.htm</a> Interested women can learn outdoors skills from trap shooting and whitetail ecology to canoeing and building their own fishing rods.

The Natural Resources Foundation (NRF) of Wisconsin <a href="http://www.nrfwis.org/">http://www.nrfwis.org/</a>

The NRF offers Field Trips all over the state educating participants about a wide variety of natural resources and activities. Some field trip titles include Woodland Trail Design & Construction, Just For Kids: Geology of Devil's Lake, and Sea Kayak the Pokegama Bay Wetlands.

White Property of Wisconsin − Extension (UWEX) <a href="http://www1.uwex.edu/">http://www1.uwex.edu/</a>

Information about natural resources, agriculture, and business for adults, children, employers, and employees through coursework, brochures and handouts, and personal assistance in every county in the state. UWEX has it all!

- Wisconsin Center for Environmental Education (WCEE)
  <a href="http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/">http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/</a>
  <a href="http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/wcee/">The WCEE offers a Masters program in EE, an annual High School Environmental Action Conference, a reference library, and numerous other resources.
- → The Wisconsin Chapter of The Nature Conservancy
  <a href="http://nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/wisconsin/">http://nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/wisconsin/</a>
  <a href="https://example.com/wherewework/northamerica/states/wisconsin/">https://example.com/wherewework/northamerica/states/wisconsin/</a>
  <a href="https://example.com/wherew
- Wisconsin State Park, Forest, Trail, and Interpretive Events <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/events.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/events.html</a> The ways to get involved are limitless. The state offers photo contests, trail hikes, craft workshops, educational events for kids and adults, and even the occasional hootenanny (sing along).

### Index of "What You Can Do"

#### For Kids

- → Visit the Law Enforcement web page to learn about how you can sign up for a **safety training** course, brush up on safety tips, or find more statewide statistics. Go to <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/</a>>.
- Take an **angler education** class. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish/anglered/anglered.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish/anglered/anglered.htm</a>>.
- ★ Kids can become Junior Rangers/Wisconsin Explorers, parent-child discovery programs in Wisconsin's state parks and forests. Adults can get involved as teachers/group leaders too. To find out more, go to <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/interp/jrwe.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/interp/jrwe.html</a>, write to Bureau of Parks and Recreation, Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, or call (608) 266-0229.

### For Parents

- → Visit the Law Enforcement web page to learn about how you can sign up for a **safety** training course, brush up on safety tips, or find more statewide statistics. Go to <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/</a>>.
- Kids can become **Junior Rangers/Wisconsin Explorers**, parent-child discovery programs in Wisconsin's state parks and forests. Adults can get involved as teachers/group leaders too. To find out more, go to <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/interp/jrwe.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/interp/jrwe.html</a>, write to Bureau of Parks and Recreation, Department of Natural Resources, PO Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707, or call (608) 266-0229.
- Ways to be safe while having fun in Wisconsin's state parks. Visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/other/safety.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/other/safety.html</a>>.

#### For Teachers

Educational Materials are available at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi">http://www.dnr.state.wi</a>. us/org/water/dwg/gw/>.

**Wisconsin Groundwater Study Guide** – curriculum for 6<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> graders in earth science including activity sheets, overheads, posters and more.

**Groundwater Education Resources Directory** – listing of educational materials and contacts in and around the state.

**Well Abandonment Brochure** – brochure answering your questions with text, diagrams, and pictures.

- *Mercury in Your Community and the Environment* − This is a 53-page document for educators at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/teacher/mercury2.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/teacher/mercury2.htm</a>.
- Who to contact for K-12 and community **mercury education**: (608) 264-6282.
- → *The Green(er) Machine* free guide to "green" driving and automobile maintenance (excellent for drivers education



- instructors); contact Wisconsin DNR, CE/6 Box 7921, 101 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53707-7921, (608) 264-9258.
- Where's the Air? CD-ROM tool teaching about ozone & air quality. All WI schools have been sent a copy (check with library or media center) or you may order a copy. For more information <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/teacher/wtair.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/teacher/wtair.htm</a>>.
- Celebrate Clean Air Month May.
- Firewise For Educators online curriculum and educational materials, <a href="http://www.firewise.org/www/default2.htm">http://www.firewise.org/www/default2.htm</a>.
- Teachers, take a look at **wildlife publications** available for your use. For a list of publications, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/publ/teachers.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/publ/teachers.htm</a>>.
- For teachers, lead an **aquatic critter search** in a local waterbody. To find the activity page for a search, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/teacher/critrsrch.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/eek/teacher/critrsrch.htm</a>.
- Participate in **purple loosestrife** control measures citizens and school groups. Fore more information, call (608) 221-6349 or (608) 267-5066 or write to Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Project, DNR Research Center, 1350 Femrite Drive, Monona, WI 53716.
- Teachers, find out more about **Project WET** curriculum and activity guide (K-12) by calling (715) 346-4978 or visiting <a href="http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/wet/">http://www.uwsp.edu/cnr/uwexlakes/wet/</a>>.
- For information on **Community Water Education and Action** opportunities, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/bureau/education/reslst.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/bureau/education/reslst.htm</a>>.
- Teachers, find out more about **Project Learning Tree**, an educational forestry program by calling (202) 463-2468.
- → Teachers, find out about Project WILD Aquatic Education Guide by calling (850) 488-4679 or writing Project WILD, Office of Informational Services, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, 620 S. Meridian St., Tallahassee, FL 32399-1600.

## For Property Owners

- Visit Wetland Restoration Handbook for Landowners at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/wetlands/resman.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/wetlands/resman.htm</a>.
- → Take a workshop to learn about **best management practices** for loggers, woodland owners, and natural resources managers. To look at a schedule, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/usesof/bmp/bmp.htm#Workshops">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/usesof/bmp/bmp.htm#Workshops</a>.
- If you own property bordering on one or more of the **exceptional resource waters**, consider implementing some of the best management practices in the chapter of this report called, "Managing Watersheds to Reduce Water Quality Impacts," starting on page 59.
- → Work with the **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program** to restore or improve native habitats for fish and wildlife on your property. They can provide expertise and some funding. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/fund/fishwildlife.html">http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/fund/fishwildlife.html</a>>.
- Learn how you can protect **natural communities** in which rare species live. *Who to contact*: Land Owner Contact Specialist,

(608) 267-9789.

- → If you have what you believe to be a **marker tree** on your property, please call Bill Kingswan with the Ho-Chunk Nation's Division of Natural Resources. He is taking photos of the trees as well as recording their locations and what they are marking. He can be contacted at (800) 294-9343, ext. 1106.
- If you are a landowner, identify old wells on your property, if they exist, that have not been properly abandoned, and have them filled according to regulations. Always report well abandonments to the WDNR. Check with your county's Land Conservation Department (LCD) or the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to learn more about cost sharing opportunities they may offer.
- **→** If you own property in a **floodplain**:
  - and no vegetative buffer exists, plant one.
  - and you have an unnecessary structure or fill in the floodplain, remove it.
  - and you have an unnecessary dam or other water-impounding structure, remove it.
  - and you want more information about how to go about any of these things, talk to a WDNR representative.
- → To get assistance managing your woodlands, contact your county WDNR forester, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/ftax/COUNTY.HTM">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/ftax/COUNTY.HTM</a>, or contact Wisconsin Forest Productivity Council at (715) 369-3475.
- For more information about the **Managed Forest Law**, a tax saving program related to timber production, call (608) 266-3545 or visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/ftax/">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/ftax/</a>.
- Cost sharing is available through the **Forestry Incentive Program**. For more information, call your county WDNR forester or your county NRCS Office, or visit <a href="http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>.
- → Create **your own wildlife area**. Find out about available cost sharing opportunities at your county NRCS office or visit <a href="http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>. Cost sharing is possible for things like:
  - Wetland restoration and wildlife habitat establishment under the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP).
  - Tree planting, wildlife ponds, and grass cover under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).
  - Seeding, fencing, prairie restoration, in stream structures, and more under the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP).

## Personal Ecology Tips

- → If you have what you believe to be a **marker tree** on your property, please call Bill Kingswan with the Ho-Chunk Nation's Department of Natural Resources. He is taking photos of the trees as well as recording their locations and what they are marking. He can be contacted at (800) 294-9343, ext. 1106.
- → Take care not to spread invasive species
  - Clean water crafts and trailers thoroughly before leaving the water's edge.
  - Practice wise gardening by not planting invasive or quickspreading species and planting native species whenever

possible.

- → Keep **private wells** clean and well maintained.
- → Solid Waste Alternatives

**Recycling** – to find out where in your area to take your recycling: <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/markets/category.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/markets/category.html</a> **Home Composting** – to learn about composting and its benefits: <a href="http://www.uwex.edu/shwec/">http://www.uwex.edu/shwec/</a>

<a href="http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/compost.html">http://www.ftw.nrcs.usda.gov/compost.html</a>

- Recycle mercury from household products that use it.
   Wisconsin Mercury Recycling Program − In La Crosse, (608) 785-9855 or in Eau Claire, (715) 268-4374.
- Conserve energy to reduce mercury released from coal-fired electricity plants.
- **→** Use household items containing **mercury-free alternatives**.
- → The Green(er) Machine free guide to "green" driving and automobile maintenance (excellent for drivers education instructors); contact Wisconsin DNR, CE/6 Box 7921, 101 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53707-7921, (608) 264-9258.
- Learn more about what you can do to **protect your home from fires**. Visit, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/fire/homefire.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/fire/homefire.htm</a>.
- Get a **burning permit** and understand the regulations that go with it. A permit is needed to legally burn refuse, so why not learn how to do so safely at the same time? To get a burning permit, contact your local fire warden or visit a nearby Wisconsin DNR service center.
- If you have a **large or small dam** on your property that serves no useful purpose or is an unsafe structure, consider the water quality and aesthetic benefits of removing the impoundment.
- **→** If you own property in a **floodplain**:
  - and no vegetative buffer exists, plant one.
  - and you have an unnecessary structure or fill in the floodplain, remove it.
  - and you want more information about how to go about any of these things, talk to a WDNR representative.

#### Places to Visit

- Black River State Forest. Maps and specific information about backpack camping, canoe camping, horse camping, hunter camping, and general camping provided at the Black River Falls WDNR Service Center, located at the intersection of Highway 54 and Interstate 94.
- Castle Mound State Park. Because it is part of the Black River State Forest, it is not listed separately like the other state parks. Call (715) 284-4103.
- → County parks and forests. Visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/partners/coparks.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/partners/coparks.html</a> or call your county Forestry and Parks or Parks and Recreation department.
- → Dike 17 Wildlife Area. View the sharp-tailed grouse mating dances in April. Maps of the wildlife area are available at the Black River Falls Service Center, 910 Highway 54 East.

- → Upper Mississippi River or Trempealeau national wildlife refuges. These public lands offer nearly 250,000 acres of recreational opportunities.
- → Geologic formations:
  - Mindoro Cut Following Highway 108 toward La Crosse, you'll come to a large cut in a granite outcrop to make the ridge passable by road.
  - Brady's Bluff Located in Perrot State Park, Brady's Bluff offers a great hiking and scenic opportunity.
  - Sandstone bluffs along the Black River Canoe down the lower Black River to see high sandstone bluffs cut over generations by the water.
  - Galesville Park Bluffs and caves can be found along the trails in this scenic park.
  - Miscellaneous roadcuts Study the layers in roadcuts all over the area. Some particularly interesting ones are the Hixton Cut through which County Highway A and Interstate 94 pass in Jackson County and the Arcadia Ridge roadcuts found along Highway 93 in Trempealeau County.
- → **The Ice Age Park & Trail**. Foundation Calendar for upcoming events located at <a href="http://www.iceagetrail.org/infocenter/">http://www.iceagetrail.org/infocenter/</a>.
- → Natural areas:
  - **Blue Swamp** Clark County
  - **Brady's Bluff Prairie** Trempealeau County
  - Castle Mound Pine Forest Jackson County
  - Jay Creek Pine Forest Jackson County
  - **Ketchum Creek Pines** Jackson County
  - Midway Railroad Prairie La Crosse County
  - La Crosse River Trail Prairie La Crosse County
  - Robinson Creek Pines Jackson County
  - **Twin Lakes Bog** Taylor County
- → The **Perrot State Park** Nature Center.
- → **State parks and forests**, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/reservation/index.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/reservation/index.html</a>.
- → **Voyageurs Canoe Trail** in Perrot State Park. For more information, call the park office at (608) 534-6409.
- A wildlife area or fishery area in the basin. Go fishing, canoeing, hunting, trapping, hiking, berry, nut, or mushroom picking, and so much more. Follow the regulations for each individual property and enjoy!

### Stay Informed

- Take an **angler education** class. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish/anglered/anglered.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/fish/anglered/anglered.htm</a>>.
- The archaeology of the Trempealeau area through the Mississippi Valley Archaeology Center (MVAC), <a href="http://www.uwlax.edu/Colleges/mvac/">http://www.uwlax.edu/Colleges/mvac/</a>.
- → **Archaeology in Wisconsin** through the Wisconsin Archaeological Society at <a href="http://www.uwm.edu/Org/WAS/">http://www.uwm.edu/Org/WAS/</a>>.
- Take a workshop to learn about **best management practices** for loggers, woodland owners, and natural resources managers. To

- look at a schedule, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/usesof/bmp/bmp.htm#Workshops">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/usesof/bmp/bmp.htm#Workshops</a>>.
- → Valuable information to make your **boating** experience a safe one. <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/safety/boatpape.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/safety/boatpape.htm</a>. Things that you can access on this page include:
  - Information about buying and registering a boat
  - Boating regulations
  - Identifying waterway markers
  - Safety tips
  - Age requirements
- The best ways to prepare and cook fish that may be contaminated with **PCBs or mercury**.
- → **Dams** in Wisconsin, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/dsfm/dams/index.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/dsfm/dams/index.html</a>>.
- **⇒** Elk Recovery Program, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/ELK/>">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/wildlife/ELK/>">
- The **geology of Wisconsin** and much more through the University of Wisconsin Extension's Wisconsin Geologic and History Survey, <a href="http://www.uwex.edu/wgnhs/index.html">http://www.uwex.edu/wgnhs/index.html</a>.
- **Ho-Chunk Division of Natural Resources**, <a href="http://www.ho-chunknation.com">http://www.ho-chunknation.com</a>>.
- How nutrient loading in this basin adds to a problem called "hypoxia" that occurs annually in the Gulf of Mexico.
  <a href="http://www.rcolka.cr.usgs.gov/midconherb/hypoxia.html">http://www.fishingnj.org/artdedzn.htm</a>
- How to sign up for a **safety training course**, brush up on safety tips, or find more statewide statistics, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/</a>.
- → Identifying **wetland plants & animals** so you know when you are in or near a wetland habitat.
- Natural communities found in Wisconsin and about what natural communities can be found in your county, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/rare/natcomm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/rare/natcomm</a> descripts.htm>.
- Programs like **pollutant trading**, **animal waste management**, and **nonpoint source abatement**, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/innovation.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/innovation.html</a>>.
- State natural areas in your county that protect natural communities, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/snas/bycountylist.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/snas/bycountylist.htm</a>.
- What you can do to protect your home from **fires**, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/fire/homefire.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/forestry/fire/homefire.htm</a>.
- → When the seasons are for any animal you want to hunt. Visit your local WDNR service center or any facility that sells Wisconsin hunting licenses.
- → Wolf Recovery Program, <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/publications/wolfplan/toc.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/publications/wolfplan/toc.htm</a>
- Request the "**Recognizing Wetlands**" pamphlet from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at (608) 784-8236.
- → Request the "Building near Wetlands" publication from the WDNR. Call (715) 284-1424.
- → Forest management publications are available at (608) 262-2655

- or <a href="http://www.uwex.edu/ces/pubs">http://www.uwex.edu/ces/pubs>.
- To learn more about **invasive species** and to get involved in control activities in the southern section of the basin, call (608) 388-5766.
- Read the Wisconsin Academy Intelligent Consumption Project Report at <a href="http://www.wisconsinacademy.org">http://www.wisconsinacademy.org</a>.
- For fun facts on **forestry and recycling**, visit the American Forest & Paper Association web page at <a href="http://www.afandpa.org">http://www.afandpa.org</a>>.
- For **wildlife publications**, contact the UW-Extension by calling (877) 947-7827 or visiting <a href="http://www1.uwex.edu/ces/pubs">http://www1.uwex.edu/ces/pubs</a>.

#### Get Involved

- Start a **Lake Association** or a **Lake District**. Find out more at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/</a>>.
- → Join or help form a **Friends group**. To learn more, go to <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/friends.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/friends.html</a>>.
- Participate in the **Black River State Forest Trail Foundation** and help enhance the trails through public awareness and fundraising. To get involved, call the forest superintendent at (715) 284-1426 or contact Dave Steinert, Chairman, 311 View Street, Tomah, WI 54660, (608) 372-6901.
- → Provide economic support to **endangered resources** by:
  - Ordering an Endangered Resources license plate.
  - Adopting an eagle's nest.
  - Donating on your taxes.
- → Join the Friends of the Great River State Trail to help promote, advertise, and enhance the Great River State Trail in cooperation with the WDNR. To join, write to Friends of the Great River State Trail, 800 Oak Forest Drive, Onalaska, WI 54650.
- → **Donate legally harvested deer** at designated sites to help feed the poor. Brochures are available wherever hunting licenses are sold. In the BBT, donation sites can be found in Buffalo, Clark, La Crosse, Monroe, Taylor, and Trempealeau Counties.
- Get involved with the Black-Buffalo-Trempealeau Basin Partnership.
  - Attend meetings as an observer if you want to find out more about what the partnership is doing.
  - Add your name to the mailing list to receive the quarterly newsletter of the Black-Buffalo-Trempealeau Basin Partnership, The Ripple Effect.
- To join the **Wisconsin Wetlands Association (WWA)**, contact WWA, 222 South Hamilton Street, Suite #1, Madison, WI 53703, e-mail <wetlands@execpc.com>, or visit <a href="http://www.wiscwetlands.org">http://www.wiscwetlands.org</a>.
- For information on **Community Water Education and Action** opportunities, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/bureau/education/reslst.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/bureau/education/reslst.htm</a>.
- To learn more about **invasive species** and to get involved in control activities in the southern section of the basin, call (608) 388-5766 or e-mail <kim.mello@emh2.mccoy.army.mil>.

## Volunteer

→ Volunteer to help remove **invasive species** from public lands with conservation organizations like The Nature Conservancy. Find out how at <a href="http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/howhelp.html">http://tncweeds.ucdavis.edu/howhelp.html</a>>.

- Participate in **purple loosestrife** control measures citizens and school groups. For more information, call (608) 221-6349 or (608) 267-5066 or write to Purple Loosestrife Biocontrol Project, DNR Research Center, 1350 Femrite Drive, Monona, WI 53716.
- Become a volunteer **safety instructor** and do what you can to properly prepare future hunters, boaters, ATV and snowmobile users for safe and responsible recreation in the future. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/safety/safvol.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/es/enforcement/safety/safvol.htm</a> or contact Thomas Bokelman at PO Box 4001, Eau Claire, WI 54702-4001, (715) 839-3717.
- → Volunteer as a **fire warden** Each township has a volunteer fire warden. It's a great way to meet neighbors and teach people about fire safety at the same time. Call (715) 284-1409 or (715) 284-1410 to find out more about where help is needed.
- Become a **nature center host**, a **volunteer conservationist**, or a **visitor services volunteer**. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/volunt.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/volunt.htm</a>.
- Adopt a trail. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi">http://www.dnr.state.wi</a>. us/org/land/parks/voljobs/volunt.htm>.
- Become a **volunteer campground host**. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/volunt.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/voljobs/volunt.htm</a>>.
- → Volunteer to help with **wildlife management** activities in the Dike 17 Wildlife Area. Some projects you might be able to help with include:
  - Installation of goose nesting boxes
  - Assisting with track surveys and wolf howling
  - Helping with goose banding and releases
  - Counting breeding birds

#### Other Resources

- E-mail updates about **endangered resources** To subscribe, send an e-mail to <majordomo@badger.state.wi.us> and write "subscribe erprogram" or "subscribe erprogram-digest" in the body of your message.
- → The Endangered and Threatened Vertebrate Species of Wisconsin and Guide to Wisconsin's Endangered and Threatened Plants from the WDNR's Bureau of Endangered Resources. These guides can be used to make decisions about land use and management to promote the survival of rare plants and animals.
- Order your **hunting** (or **fishing**) license in advance on-line or by phone. Visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us</a> and click on "Licenses, Permits and Registrations" or call 1-877-WI-LICENSE.
- The future of **solid waste management**. Visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/publications/wafuture.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/publications/wafuture.htm</a>.
- → The Green(er) Machine free guide to "green" driving and

- automobile maintenance (excellent for drivers education instructors); contact Wisconsin DNR, CE/6 Box 7921, 101 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53707-7921, (608) 264-9258.
- → Ways to be **safe** while having fun in Wisconsin's state parks. Visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/other/safety.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/parks/other/safety.html</a>>.
- → *Understanding Lake Data*, a publication by UW-Extension, which explains many water quality impacts in the context of lakes and more. Copies can be obtained through your local UW-Extension office or at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/under/index.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/under/index.htm</a>>.
- **Wisconsin Manual of Control Recommendations for Ecologically Invasive Plants**, put out by the WDNR in 1997. The information from this manual is available at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive/manual">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/land/er/invasive/manual</a> TOC.htm>.
- ➡ Wisconsin's Forestry Best Management Practices for Water Quality. It's a field manual, available at a local WDNR office, for loggers, landowners, and land managers.

## Available Grant and Cost Sharing Programs

- Reserve programs available to wetland landowners who want to preserve, restore, or enhance their wetlands:
  - Wetland Reserve Program voluntary program provides opportunities for cost sharing to restore wetlands. For more information: Wetland Reserve Program Coordinator (608) 276-8732, ext. 222, or <a href="http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/PROGRAMS/wrp/">http://www.nhq.nrcs.usda.gov/PROGRAMS/wrp/</a>.
  - Conservation Reserve Program program allows the federal government to enter contracts with agricultural producers to remove key lands from production in return for annual rent payments. *For more information*: <a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crpinfo.htm">http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crpinfo.htm</a>>.
- Many grants are available to fund projects to protect, restore, or improve water quality:
  - Lake Grants: <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/lkgrants.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/lakes/lkgrants.htm</a>
  - River Planning and Protection Grants: <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/rivers/index.htm">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/fhp/rivers/index.htm</a>
- Work with the **Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program** to restore or improve native habitats for fish and wildlife on your property. They can provide expertise and some funding. To find out more, visit <a href="http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/fund/fishwildlife.html">http://www.epa.gov/owow/watershed/wacademy/fund/fishwildlife.html</a>>.
- If you have a creative idea for reducing waste, the Waste Reduction & Recycling Demonstration Grant Program is available from the WDNR: <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/grants">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/aw/wm/grants</a>.
- Learn about the **Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program** (CREP), which is a State-federal conservation partnership using financial incentives to encourage landowners to address water, air, and soil quality in their land practices. The BBT is in the

- CREP eligible area of the state. Visit <a href="http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crep/crephome.htm">http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/cepd/crep/crephome.htm</a>>.
- → WDNR grants are available for:
  - **Dam removal or repair** —<a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/dsfm/dams/grants.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/water/wm/dsfm/dams/grants.html</a>>.
  - Local Water Quality Planning <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi">http://www.dnr.state.wi</a>. us/org/water/wm/lwqag.html>.
- → Cost sharing is available through the **Forestry Incentive Program**. For more information, call your county WDNR forester or your county NRCS Office, or visit <a href="http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>>.
- → Create **your own wildlife area**. Find out about available cost sharing opportunities at your county NRCS office or visit <a href="http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/">http://www.wi.nrcs.usda.gov/</a>>. Cost sharing is possible for things like:
  - Wetland restoration and wildlife habitat establishment under the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP).
  - Tree planting, wildlife ponds, and grass cover under the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP).
  - Seeding, fencing, prairie restoration, in stream structures, and more under the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP).

#### Have a Voice

- → If you have suggestions for the **State Forest**, please let the WDNR Lands and Forestry Team know. Call the Black River Falls Service Center at (715) 284-1400.
- → Remember the WDNR Hotline 1-800-TIP-WDNR if you see someone violating boating rules and making the water unsafe for others.
- If you would like to have more handicapped accessible campsites available in the **Black River State Forest**, plan on taking part in the Black River State Forest master planning process, which will begin in 2003.
- **→** Become an active public partner with the WDNR:
  - Contact your local WDNR office to express your views and opinions.
  - Attend public meetings or hearings. For a schedule of meetings and hearings, visit <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/hearmeet.html">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/org/caer/ce/news/hearmeet.html</a>>.
  - Learn about the issues so you can help support natural resources with an informed opinion. A great deal of information can be found at <a href="http://www.dnr.state.wi.us">http://www.dnr.state.wi.us</a>>.
  - Volunteer in an area of natural resources work that interests you and learn more about it in the process.
  - Get out and enjoy Wisconsin's natural resources. They belong to all of us – together!